THE MADRAS LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Friday, the 19th March 1948.

The House met in the Council Chamber, Fort St. George, at three of the clock, Mr. Chairman (SRI C. N. MUTHURANGA MUDALIYAR) in the chair.

I.—SWEARING IN OF NEW MEMBER.

The following new member was sworn in :—

K. Muhammad Rahmat-ul-la Sahib Bahadur.

II.—QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

STARRED QUESTIONS.

The Government Girls' High School, Mayavaram.

* 38-B *Q.*—DR. V. K. JOHN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether there is any truth in the report in the Press that the Government Girls' High School at Mayavaram will be closed from the next academic year or that its management will be handed over to a private body or to the municipal council if they accept the charge?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— "The Retrenchment and Reorganization Committee has recommended that all uneconomic schools, be they Government or aided, for boys or girls which have less than twenty pupils per class on the average should be closed and that if a local body or private agency comes forward to start or run a school or is prepared to manage an existing Government school, it should be enabled to do so. This recommendation was forwarded to the Director of Public Instruction and the Director of Public Instruction has suggested that certain schools may be closed or transferred to other managements in view of this recommendation. No orders of Government have been passed on the matter yet. The matter is under consideration."

DR. V. K. JOHN :—" May I know whether there are any other schools, the closing of which is under the consideration of the Government? "

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR :— " Owing to the recommendation of the Reorganization and Retrenchment Committee that uneconomic schools should be closed down, notices have been given to many schools and they number about 18 at present."